

# MANY STORIES OF VALLEY ISLE STORM RAVAGES

## Ten Dead, Huge Property Loss, as Result of Storm that Swept Maui

(Continued from page one)

Wharves and landings are badly damaged or swept away. McGregor's Landing is wiped out, say advices today.

Detailed news of the disaster reached Honolulu today with the arrival of the Inter-Island steamer Claudine. The Claudine brought several Honolulu residents home who had been storm-bound on the Valley Isle, including members of the Hawaii Promotion Committee.

From these passengers the Star-Bulletin secured much of the late information published today.

E. A. Berndt, chairman of the Promotion Committee, and J. Walter Doyle, who was on Maui to arrange for the visit of the Teal theatrical company of which he is manager, came home with particularly comprehensive and timely accounts of the Maui disaster. Mr. Doyle secured the names of those whose bodies had been found, published herewith.

## Weather Moderates; Water Smooth; Lahaina Wireless Working Again

Shortly before noon today Manager J. A. Balch of the Mutual Telephone Company's wireless department received the following message from Wireless Operator Basil E. Penn at Lahaina:

"Calm and bright. Moderate southerly breeze and smooth water restored. Special gangs are being put to work on telephone and communication may be restored tomorrow. Power will be shut off from noon to 3 this afternoon for repairs to cable. Not advisable to accept business other points than Lahaina."

The Lahaina station is thus still cut off from Wailuku and the wireless company is not yet accepting business to other Maui points than Lahaina. Everywhere else on the islands the wireless service is uninterrupted.

Lahaina station has not been able to communicate with the local headquarters on account of damage to the power plant, which is at Lahaina.

## Wailuku, Staggering Under Blow, Organizes Relief Work Rapidly

The widespread destruction on Maui caused by the storm is emphasized in stories brought to Honolulu today by local residents who were in Wailuku or Lahaina when the storm was at its height.

The worst of the storm was late Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning. It was then that the valley was deluged and the water rose so high that deaths came with appalling rapidity.

News is brought of the narrow escape of John Ferreira, deputy sheriff, from his inundated home in upper Iao valley. The house had only recently been finished. At 6 o'clock Tuesday morning Ferreira was awakened to find the water deep on the floor of his bedroom.

He succeeded in getting his wife and one of their children from the house and carried them through the rushing waters to the higher road-way, 50 yards distant. He then returned for the two other children. By this time the water was up to his neck and it was barely possible for him to keep his footing. By tremendous exertion he got into the house, reached the other two children and got them to the road, half-swimming and half-walking.

This experience is illustrative of the great rapidity with which the water rose after the cloudburst at many points in the valley the water went up four feet in less than five minutes.

Debris jammed at Wailuku Bridge. At Wailuku Market street bridge the debris carried down the valley jammed into a great mass of wreckage. This is at the center of Wailuku. In this vicinity at least 20 small stores and dwellings went under water or were smashed in by the force of the torrent and the boulders brought down from above. A new store near the bridge, just completed at a cost of \$3000, was completely wrecked and its contents destroyed.

At Wailuku the damage was considerable. The plantation bridge opposite the mill connecting with Wailuku was carried away. Wailuku was under water yesterday and no communication was possible. The greatest damage to cane is in this neighborhood, say some reports.

All the bridges between Wailuku and Maalaea Bay have been washed out. Beyond this information, Wailuku has no knowledge of what has happened in the Lahaina section, no communication with that town is impossible.

Settlement Under Water. The Pihana settlement, a small group of houses below Wailuku, near the beach, was inundated. Seven

houses were soon under water and the residents took refuge in Lahaina. No lives were lost here.

It was at this point that most of the bodies were recovered, having been washed down from the upper valley.

At noon Tuesday Manager H. B. Penhallow of Wailuku plantation made a rough estimate that the damage to his plantation was at least \$75,000. Later damage materially increased this figure. The greatest loss was in the growing cane, which was entirely washed away.

Following the Iao cloudburst, Wailuku lost both water and light utilities. The electric power was shut off for public safety. The pipeline into the reservoir supplying Wailuku with water was broken, and the water in the city mains was shut off. A notice was posted by the county officials warning the public that only drinking water could be secured and must be used sparingly. Water for drinking purposes was available only between 6 and 7 a. m., 11:30 and 12 m. and 5 to 6 p. m. A gang of 100 men was immediately put to working night and day to repair the pipes and mains and avert the threatened water famine.

Relief Committee Organized. Maui rose to the emergency in splendid style. Joaquin G. Garcia, assistant cashier of the First National Bank, and A. J. De Souza organized a relief committee, with headquarters at the Maui Drygoods Company store. More than 200 persons were clothed and fed here by 6 o'clock Tuesday night.

Manager Penhallow of Wailuku plantation was another of the leaders in the relief work, organizing systematic relief measures for the destitute and sufferers of the plantation.

Wailuku has yet little knowledge of what has happened in other sections of the island, owing to the fact that communication is almost totally impossible. Telephone communication is disorganized. But meager reports from other sources show that the greatest damage was in the neighborhood of Wailuku. At Paia, Kahului and other places the damage, while material, was not so appalling.

Absolutely no news had been received from Lahaina up to last night and reports today say that it is unlikely the communication between the two towns has yet been restored. Since Monday morning Wailuku has been out of touch with the outside world. The telephone system being out of order to Lahaina, and the wireless plant being at Lahaina, Wailuku is in isolation.

Sheriff Takes Prompt Measures to Keep Order; Engineer Is Energetic

On all sides credit is given to the county officials for prompt action to make the best of a bad situation.

Sheriff Clem Crowell "put the lid on" all drinking as soon as the seriousness of the situation was apparent. No liquor is allowed to be carried out of any of the saloons and no liquor can be taken into the section of the flooded district where the worst disasters occurred. Sheriff Crowell takes the position that booze is dangerous in a crisis such as this. He fears that the poor people, already half-crazed with misfortune, will drink to forget their troubles and commit suicide or run amuck.

Crowell reports the greatest cooperation on the part of all classes and no serious trouble has arisen. Twenty-two county prisoners were yesterday working with him, in addition to volunteers, and the regular police force is credited with doing great work.

In addition to handling this trying situation, Crowell is also acting coroner. Working straight through the worst of the storm, he took no sleep for two days and is generally given credit for handling the emergency splendidly.

In the Iao river the water rose four feet again on Tuesday night. Crowell and his men, who were still

## PENHALLOW REPORTS 15 DEATHS; BRIDGES AND HOUSES WASH AWAY

Many Plantation People Made Homeless By Flood; 11 Bodies Recovered Yesterday

Giving a graphic picture of the destruction wrought on Maui by the kona gale, a report was received this morning by mail by C. Brewer & Co. from Manager H. B. Penhallow of the Wailuku Sugar Company. It is dated yesterday and reads, in part, as follows:

"Roughly speaking, about 50 acres of cane have been washed out, or buried, distributed over the two crops, and a number of concrete flumes on the Wailuku ditch and other ditches have been washed out. All the ditch heads have been badly damaged."

"The longer of the two railroad bridges across Iao stream behind the mill has been carried away, and one of the piers under the Wailuku railroad bridge is undermined so that it may go before the volume of water in that stream decreases sufficiently to allow us to do any work to save it."

"All the plantation people who have been made homeless by the flood are being taken care of. We have seen that they are being fed and sufficiently clothed, most of them having lost all their belongings when their houses were washed away. Some of these were from our own camp, and some lived in outside houses."

C. Brewer & Company this morning would hazard no estimate of the amount of damage, beyond the guess that the loss of 50 acres of cane on the Wailuku Agricultural Company's property would run easily to \$20,000.

"The government road is impassable."

"So far the railroad bridge across the Wailuku stream has stood. The entire valley bottom here in Wailuku has been flooded and numerous houses carried away, among which were several camp houses in Iao valley at the foot of the hill by the town reservoir. In this camp several persons were drowned. Besides this there was loss of life in the valley, in all about 15. So far, 11 bodies have been recovered."

Seven Dead in One Camp.

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## JAPANESE DIES WHO PRAYS AS STORM COMES ON

He Told People God Would Not Let Waters Hurt Them If They Stayed Home

What terror was struck into the hearts of the poor householders of Iao valley, many of them ignorant laborers, is shown by the stories which later came out.

Suyetake Jitsu, a Japanese minister, was warned by the neighbors of the onrushing flood coming down the valley. He came out on his little porch, returned to the house, put on priestly robes and emerging again, admonished the terrified people who were flocking around him to stay where they were. He told them that God would not allow the waters to harm them. Then he knelt in prayer and it was while he was bending devoutly that the flood caught him, jamming his body between a large tree and the house. He was killed almost instantly. A few minutes later his house was carried down the river.

Jitsu's body has been recovered and is at the Wailuku morgue.

A Spanish family lived a quarter of a mile below the Ferreira house. When the cloudburst struck this section the father got his wife and one child from the house and then went back after the other child, a small baby. In plain sight of the mother and older child, the father and the babe were carried away on the torrent. The bodies were recovered two miles below.

On Tuesday night the river went down considerably but a heavy electrical storm broke shortly after 8 a. m., which lasted through the night and morning. The thunder and lightning terrified the poor people for long hours. Many of the ignorant people proclaimed that they believed the end of the world was at hand.

"It was an interesting trip, and I think I saw more water than ever before in my life," said George H. Angus today when asked by a Star-Bulletin reporter for an account of his experiences on Maui with the other Promotion Committee members who returned today on the Claudine.

Mr. Angus stated that 14 houses had been washed away by the cloudburst in the Iao Valley and that 11 bodies had been recovered when the party left there, including Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiians and Portuguese, several of them small children.

"The Lahaina road is all washed out," said Mr. Angus. "They told me it will take at least two weeks to build even a temporary road from Lahaina to Wailuku. Along the Pail section of the road, whole chunks of the highway have just dropped from the cliff, according to rumors I heard yesterday."

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## STORAGE

WE STORE EVERYTHING. JAMES H. LOYE

CITY TRANSFER COMPANY PHONE 1231

## WORST STORM IN 34 YEARS, SAYS

EMIL A. BERNDT

(Continued from page one)

material from Honolulu can come in. About 100 acres of cane are covered with soil and wreckage deposited by the raging waters and landslides.

Not only has Wailuku been without telephone and electric light service, but also water service, as the mains have all carried away. Drinking water is permitted only during certain hours, as the contents of the reservoir is all the water available. Only horseback riding can be resorted to as a means of communication because the bridges at river crossings are gone and the waters are too high and dangerous for autos to ford. This afternoon the refugees were given food and clothing by the Maui Dry Goods and Grocery Company to relieve their sufferings.

Manager Joaquin Garcia, the head of this institution, is being praised everywhere for his kind-heartedness. A subscription will be gotten up immediately to give succor and the board of supervisors of Maui has called a special meeting for 2 p. m. tomorrow to take action to assist the homeless and destitute.

Late this afternoon the waters of the Iao river have receded somewhat, but the back of the storm is not yet broken. Heavy showers, accompanied by thunder and lightning, continue and more havoc will undoubtedly be coming from this storm.

Lahaina Cut Off. At Lahaina travelers are storm-bound, being unable to come to Wailuku. Nor can they take any of the Inter-Island steamers passing the port as under the present conditions it would be the height of folly to try and have the small boats make a landing.

The damage to the county roads will take weeks to repair, the road supervisor estimating a three weeks' job on the Lahaina-Wailuku highway. Several attempts have been made today to go over the pail, but all were unsuccessful. The Olowalu gap is also impassable.

HOTEL STREET GROUND UNDERMINED BY RAIN

Thirty feet west of Fort street on Hotel, a portion of ground about a foot square gave way under its weight last night at 10 o'clock. Upon an investigation by Charles S. Stephens, assistant superintendent of the Honolulu Rapid Transit & Land Company, it was learned that a hollow space about a foot in width had been caused lately by the heavy rains. The water sinking into the ground loosened the bottom layer of lava rock that was laid at the time of the building of the railway tracks, and when the loosened layer gained enough weight, it sank into the ground, leaving an empty space above. The vibrations caused by the passing street cars proved to be the cause of the crust sinking. Mr. Stephens said that the hollow space runs clear to the sidewalks on both sides of the street.

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## Love's Bakery

PROMOTION MEN AIDED SEARCHERS FOR MAUI DEAD

(Continued from page one)

Experiences of all kinds, ranging from being storm-bound on the summit of Haleakala in the midst of a blizzard to helping search for the bodies of plantation laborers and their families drowned in the Iao Valley cloudburst on Maui, were recounted by the Hawaii Promotion Committee members from Honolulu, who returned on the Inter-Island steamer Claudine from Maui this morning, after their meeting on the Valley Isle.

Arthur F. Wall, one of the four-committeemen from Honolulu, the others being A. P. Taylor, George Angus and Emil A. Berndt, gave a thrilling account of the party's adventures when seen this morning.

He said snow on the summit of Haleakala was three feet deep in places, and that coming down the trail the blizzard raged so Monday morning that it was difficult to see more than 100 feet ahead, owing to the hailstorm which pelted the travelers.

On getting below the snow line, the hail and snow changed to rain. Everyone was drenched to the skin by the time Wailuku was reached. The party had expected to catch the Claudine at Lahaina, but it was too rough for the boat to take on passengers there. They motored to Kahului, and managed to get aboard.

Eleven drowned bodies had been found yesterday afternoon at Wailuku before they left.

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NINE HOUR TRIP FROM WAILUKU TO LAHAINA

Hours to make the 24 miles trip from Wailuku to Lahaina yesterday, was the substance of a letter written by D. P. Fleming of Maui, chairman of the road committee of the Maui board of supervisors, to his brother, J. L. Fleming of Honolulu, president of the P. M. Morgan Company.

The Maui supervisor added that the damage to all kinds of property by the recent storm has been immense, and that every bridge on the government road between Wailuku and Lahaina has been washed out by the floods.

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The Austro-Germans have completed their occupation of Serbia by the appointment of Count Salis-Seewis, commander of the Austrian troops at Vienna, as governor general of the conquered country.

George F. Brownwell, vice-president of the Erie Railroad, has been elected a director of the company.

The Alabama Penn Prudential Savings Bank at Montgomery, Ala., a negro institution, closed its doors.

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## National Theater

(Formerly Popular Theater) HOTEL STREET NEAR YOUNG HOTEL

## Grand Re-Opening SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

WITH THE BIGGEST SHOW Ever Seen in Honolulu for the Money

PRICES ..... 10, 20 CENTS RESERVED ..... 30 CENTS

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The Musical Coolmans

Wonderful Soloists On Over Fifty Different Instruments

The District Attorney

A "Big Four" 5-Reel Feature From the Play By Charles Klein and Harrison Grey Fiske

Starring George Soule Spencer and Dorothy Bernard

(A Brand New Serial In Two Parts)

The New Adventures of Wallingford

Adapted From George Randolph Chester's Famous Stories "Get-Rich-Quick Wall